

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claim 1 has been canceled and claims 2 and 6-7 have been rewritten as dependent claims of claim 3. Specifically, the preamble of each of claims 2 and 6-7 has been changed to correspond to claim 3, and the dependency of each of claims 2 and 6-7 has been changed so that they are dependent on claim 3 instead of claim 1.

It is submitted that, since claim 3 was amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1, the amendments do not raise any new issues. Accordingly, entry and consideration of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-8 are pending in the present application. Independent claim 3, and claims 2 and 4-8 dependent thereon are directed to an optical member.

In the Advisory Action, it was indicated that claims 1-2 and 6 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by US 6,572,979 to Wollack et al. (Wollack'US) and under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by WO 99/43498 (Wollack'WO), the corresponding PCT publication, and that claim 7 remained rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by US 4,810,523 to Williams et al. (Williams).

Claim 1 has now been canceled, and claims 2 and 6-7 have been amended to be dependent on allowable claim 3. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejections are moot.

In summary, it is submitted that, since claims 2 and 6-7 are now dependent on claim 3, which is indicated to be allowed in the Advisory Action along with dependent claims 4-5 and 8, claims 2-8 are now immediately allowable.

In conclusion, the invention as presently claimed is patentable. It is believed that the claims are in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

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In the event there is, in the Examiner's opinion, any outstanding issue and such issue may be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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